

Message Text

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TAGS: MARR, MASS, TU

SUBJECT: TURKISH PRESS REPORTS: THE EMBARGO

REF: ANKARA 5317

1. FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE "DEAR COLLEAGUE" LETTER
CIRCULATED BY CONGRESSMAN DAVID F. EMERY (R-MAINE) ON
JULY 17:

2. BEGIN TEXT: TURKISH ARMS EMBARGO. DEAR COLLEAGUE:
LAST THURSDAY, I SHARED WITH YOU SOME OF MY THOUGHTS ON
THE PROPOSAL TO LIFT THE ARMS EMBARGO ON TURKEY.

DURING THE DEBATE ON THE ARMS EMBARGO ISSUE, I INTEND TO
OFFER TWO AMENDMENTS WHICH I FEEL WILL HELP ALLAY SOME OF
THE FEARS I HAVE HEARD WHEN SPEAKING WITH MY CONSTITUENTS
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AND WHICH SHOULD HELP IN SETTING THE CYPRUS PEACE NEGOTIATIONS BACK ON TRACK.

THE FIRST OF MY AMENDMENTS WOULD SIMPLY STATE THAT:
"THE PRESIDENT WILL REQUEST FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF TURKEY
A PLEDGE THAT NO NEW WEAPONS OR EQUIPMENT DELIVERED TO
THE TURKISH ARMED FORCES, AS A RESULT OF THE LIFTING OF

THE EMBARGO, WILL BE TRANSFERRED TO THE TURKISH GARRISON

ON CYPRUS; NOR WILL ANY NEW WEAPONS OR EQUIPMENT BE DE-
PLOYED ALONG THE GREEK/TURKISH BORDER IN ANY WAY OTHER
THAN THAT WHICH IS CONSISTENT WITH NATO DEFENSIVE RE-
QUIREMENTS."

MANY OF THOSE I HAVE SPOKEN WITH HAVE EXPRESSED THE CON-
CERN THAT THE TURKS WOULD USE THE NEW WEAPONS FROM THE
UNITED STATES AS A MEANS OF STRENGTHENING THEIR HOLD ON
THE PARTS OF CYPRUS THEY NOW OCCUPY. IN LIKE MANNER, MANY
FEAR THAT DEEPLY ROOTED ANIMOSITIES BETWEEN GREECE AND
TURKEY WOULD BE AGGRAVATED IF TURKEY WERE TO BEGIN
RECEIVING AND DEPLOYING LARGE SHIPMENTS OF WEAPONS AND
EQUIPMENT IN WAYS THREATENING TO GREECE.

MY AMENDMENT CLEARLY REQUIRES THAT THE TURKS ASSIGN THE
NEW WEAPONS TO UNITS NOT CONNECTED WITH THE CYPRUS OCCU-
PATION AND ENSURES THAT THE USE OF THESE WEAPONS WILL BE
USED STRICTLY FOR NATO PURPOSES ONLY.

THE SECOND OF MY AMENDMENTS WOULD ESTABLISH THREE IMPORTANT
CONDITIONS.

THE FIRST WOULD REQUIRE THE PRESIDENT TO:

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"REPORT TO THE CONGRESS, WITHIN 120 DAYS AFTER THE EFFEC-
TIVE LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO, THAT ALL OF THE PARTIES
INVOLVED IN THE CYPRUS QUESTION PLEDGE THAT CYPRUS WILL
REMAIN A FREE AND INDEPENDENT STATE WITH HUMAN AND CIVIL
RIGHTS GUARANTEED TO ALL OF THE PEOPLE OF CYPRUS".

THE SECOND REQUIREMENT WOULD REQUIRE THE PRESIDENT TO:

"REPORT TO THE CONGRESS, WITHIN THE SAME 120 DAY TIME
PERIOD A PROPOSED TIMETABLE DEVELOPED BY THE GOVERNMENT
OF TURKEY WHICH OUTLINES THAT GOVERNMENT'S PLAN FOR THE
WITHDRAWAL OF ITS REMAINING MILITARY FORCES FROM CYPRUS".

THE FINAL PROVISION OF MY SECOND AMENDMENT WOULD STATE
THAT:

"IF THE CONDITIONS OF THE ABOVE OUTLINED REQUIREMENTS ARE
NOT MET WITHIN THE PRESCRIBED TIME PERIOD, THE CONGRESS
SHALL RESERVE THE RIGHT, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE EXECU-
TIVE, TO REVIEW THE SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS TO ALL
PARTIES CONCERNED AND TAKE WHATEVER ACTION IS NECESSARY
TO ACHIEVE COMPLIANCE".

THE OPPONENTS OF THE PROPOSAL TO LIFT THE EMBARGO ON TURKEY

HAVE INDICATED THAT THE EMBARGO SHOULD NOT BE LIFTED UNTIL THERE IS A SOLUTION TO THE CYPRUS ISSUE. AS I POINTED OUT PREVIOUSLY, THAT COULD TAKE A VERY LONG TIME AND IN THE MEANTIME, WE MAY HAVE JEOPARDIZED OUR NATO PARTNERSHIP WITH TURKEY, AND GREECE, BEYOND REPAIR. AS WE HAVE SEEN OVER THE PAST FOUR YEARS, THE EMBARGO HAS NOT BEEN AN EFFECTIVE MEASURE IN COERCING EITHER SIDE TO NEGOTIATE. CLEARLY, THAT TACTIC HAS FAILED.

HOWEVER, THE ADMINISTRATION, IN SPITE OF PAST CONGRESSIONAL INTENT, AND PREVIOUS PROMISES, HAS CALLED ON THE CONGRESS
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TO LIFT THE EMBARGO OUTRIGHT. WHILE I WANT TO SUPPORT THE LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO BECAUSE OF ITS DETRIMENTAL EFFECTS ON OUR NATO FORCES ON THE SOUTHERN FLANK, I DO SYMPATHIZE WITH THOSE SKEPTICS WHO DO NOT FEEL THE LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO WILL CHANGE THE ATTITUDES OF THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT TOWARDS A SETTLEMENT ON CYPRUS.

WHEN TURKISH PRIME MINISTER ECEVET (SIC) VISITED WASHINGTON RECENTLY, I WAS VERY IMPRESSED WITH HIS SINCERITY AND HIS DESIRE TO MOVE TOWARD A RESOLUTION OF THE CYPRUS ISSUE WHICH WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO ALL PARTIES. I WAS EQUALLY IMPRESSED BY THE GREEK CYPRIOT MINISTER IN WASHINGTON, MR. ANGELIDES WHO WHILE EXPRESSING A SIMILAR DEEP FEELING FOR A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT ON HIS CYPRUS, POINTED OUT THE PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACT TURKISH FORCES ON CYPRUS WERE HAVING ON BOTH THE GREEK AND TURKISH CYPRIOTS AND ON THE POSSIBILITIES OF AN ACCEPTABLE PEACE SETTLEMENT.

I ACCEPT THE ARGUMENT THAT THE TURKS SHOULD WITHDRAW MOST, IF NOT ALL, OF THEIR TROOPS FROM CYPRUS AS A 'FIRST STEP' IN THE PEACE PROCESS. IN FACT, THE ENTIRE ISLAND SHOULD PROBABLY BE DEMILITARIZED AND UN-ADMINISTERED UNTIL A SETTLEMENT IS REACHED AND A NEW GOVERNMENT ESTABLISHED.

MY AMENDMENTS GO DIRECTLY TO THE HEART OF THE MATTER. IF ALL PARTIES TO THE NEGOTIATIONS ARE SINCERE IN SEEKING A JUST SETTLEMENT, THEY WILL NOT HESITATE TO PLEDGE A FREE AND INDEPENDENT FUTURE FOR CYPRUS. AND, IF THE TURKS REALLY WANT A JUST SETTLEMENT, AS I FEEL THEY DO, THEY MUST BE READY TO ANNOUNCE A TOTAL WITHDRAWAL OF THEIR REMAINING FORCES AND LEAVE THE FINAL DECISIONS TO THE NEGOTIATORS WITHOUT A SHADOW OF A TURKISH MILITARY PRESENCE ON CYPRUS.

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NEITHER OF MY AMENDMENTS POSES ANY HARSH RESTRICTIONS ON ANY OF THE PARTIES CONCERNED, INCLUDING THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH IN ITS SEARCH FOR A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT, NOR DO

THEY PRESENT ANY IMPOSSIBLE TASKS. THEY ARE SIMPLY AN ALTERNATIVE TO AN OTHERWISE UNREALISTIC APPROACH TO UNITED STATES FOREIGN POLICY.

AS I MENTIONED IN MY FIRST 'DEAR COLLEAGUE', THE CONGRESS MUST ACT RESPONSIBLY IN THIS MATTER NOT ONLY FOR CYPRUS, BUT FOR NATO, GREEK/TURKISH RELATIONS AND THE ROLE OF THE CONGRESS IN DETERMINING FOREIGN POLICY OBJECTIVES AS WELL.

LIFTING THE EMBARGO IS A RESPONSIBLE DECISION. BUT IN RETURN, WE MUST DEMAND RESPONSIBLE ACTION FROM THOSE PARTIES INVOLVED. I BELIEVE MY AMENDMENTS ARE CONSTRUCTIVE INITIATIVES IN THAT PROCESS AND I URGE YOUR SUPPORT OF THEM. SINCERELY, DAVID F. EMERY. END QUOTE VANCE

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